

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of claims:**

Claims 1-74 (canceled).

Claim 75. (new): A method for transmitting service messages in a network, the method comprising the steps of:

registering a terminal having a network system address with a server;  
receiving terminal device information and control information for server-side configuring of the communication system, including a communication system address for the terminal;

accepting a service message at the server from a service center in accordance with a predetermined transmission protocol;

performing terminal-specific configuration at the server using the terminal device information and control information to generate a terminal-specific configuration template and terminal-specific parameterized configuration profile;

disassembling the service message into individual components, and analyzing the structure of the components to obtain formatted structure information;

identifying the addressee of the service message and sending a notification message to the identified addressee of the received service message with an addressing scheme for collecting the content of the service message;

transmitting the content of the service message from the server to the terminal by means of a retrieval request conveyed to the server; and

producing an audio/visual presentation message, based on a pre-specified presentation format, from the service message using the formatted structure information and the terminal-specific configuration profile, and conveys said presentation message to the terminal.

Claim 76. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein the terminal generates a message content for a further service message intended for a subscriber in the network, further comprising:

producing a service message generating template at the server using the device information based on a predetermined presentation format, for generating the further service message, and transmits said service message generating template to the terminal;

forwarding the generated message content to the received service message generating template and transmitting the service message generating template, augmented with the message content, to the server in accordance with a predetermined transmission protocol;

generating the further service message from the service message generating template furnished with the message content and transmitting the further service message intended for the subscriber in the network to the service center.

Claim 77. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein at least one of the server connections is a **“Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP)”** connection.

Claim 78. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein one of a telephone number, an e-mail address, a **“Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)”** and a **“Universal Resource Identifier (URI)”** is used as the network address and an IP address is used as the communication system address.

Claim 79. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein the terminal comprises one of a set-top box (STB), a smart telephone (STF), a **“Personal Digital Assistant”** (PDA), a cordless base station (BS), a personal computer (PC).

Claim 80. (new): The method according to claim 79 wherein the terminal further comprises a universal interface to the packet-oriented connection via which the terminals are connected in accordance with a packet-oriented short-range radio or line-linked connection protocol either directly to the server or indirectly to the server by the base station or set-top box.

Claim 81. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein the device information indicates the type, characteristics, or features of the terminal (EG).

Claim 82. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein the control information comprises a password, the type and scope of a notification message (MN), a personal profile of the terminal user and/or personal preferences of the terminal user.

Claim 83. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein a “Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP)” is used as the protocol between the server and service center and a “HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP)” or “Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)” is used as the protocol between the server and terminal.

Claim 84. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein one of a “HyperText Markup Language (HTML)”, an “EXtensible Markup Language (XML)”, a “WAP (Wireless Application Protocol) Markup Language (WML)” and a “Synchronized Multimedia Integration Language (SMIL)” is used as the presentation format for the presentation message and the service message generating template.

Claim 85. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein an “EXtensible Style Sheet Language Transformation (XSLT)” is used for generating the configuration profile.

Claim 86. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein registering of the terminal with the server is performed offline directly with the operator of the server by entering the network-specific network address on the server or by registering and logging on via WEB forms, with the server keeping track of a current status by registering a legitimacy, along with a terminal user's

personal profile, a terminal type and characteristics, and storing the terminal user's personal preferences in terms of presenting and interacting.

Claim 87. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein the protocol between the server and the service center comprises one of:

- a “**Multimedia Message Service Center (MMSC)**” forwarding a MMS-specific “**Protocol Data Unit (PDU)**” to the server,

- a “**Short Message Service Center (MMSC)**” forwards a SMS-specific “**Protocol Data Unit (PDU)**” to the server,

- an “**Instant Messaging Service Center (IMSC)**” forwards “instant messages” to the server using an SIP redirector,

- an “**Electronic Mail Service Center (EMailSC)**” forwards e-mails to the server, and

- a “**Voice Mail Service Center (VMailSC)**” which accepts voice mails as e-mails or, as a gateway, accepts calls and forwards them to the server as e-mails or SIP messages.

Claim 88. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein an editing unit of the server further accepts attachments to the message content of the service message and converts them into a graphic format supported by the terminal, with said editing unit recognizing the files added as an attachment from the respective ending of the ID code, executing a suitable processing program for the respective file type to incorporate a device driver for output in a specific graphic format, and, via said program, converting the respective file into a suitable format for the terminal.

Claim 89. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein the structure information obtained from the analysis is processed to form a compilation, where the modality of media is converted into a series of related individual files.

Claim 90. (new): The method according to claim 89, wherein the

media is analyzed in terms of secondary information comprising at least one of author identification, the time of the recording and place of the recording, and wherein metadata generated during said analysis is assigned to the structure information.

Claim 91. (new): The method according to claim 90, wherein the structure information is a MPEG-7 format.

Claim 92. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein the notification message is transmitted to the server during of after a time period where the terminal is logging on to the server.

Claim 93. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein the notification message is transmitted to the server during a time period where the presentation message is retrieved from the notification message.

Claim 94. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein the terminal comprises a set-top box communicatively coupled to a television set, and wherein the notification message is transmitted directly during the television program in progress.

Claim 95. (new): The method according to claim 94, wherein the notification message already contains elements of the service message and is in the form of an instant message.

Claim 96. (new): The method according to claim 94, wherein when the notification message is presented on a television screen, the television program in progress will automatically be recorded in the manner of time-shifted viewing then resumed without interruption on the screen when the notification has been acknowledged.

Claim 97. (new): The method according to claim 96, wherein the display of the presentation message and notification message on the television screen is subdivided into 4 quadrants, with the content of the message archive being displayed in a first quadrant and the television program in progress being displayed in a second quadrant, while the respective message and current media being respectively displayed in a third and a fourth quadrant.

Claim 98. (new): The method according to claim 97, wherein the set-top box is assigned cursor keys with said cursor keys being used to navigate and select messages in a message archive, and to change views between the quadrants.

Claim 99. (new): The method according to claim 98, wherein a television remote control unit or a computer keyboard is used as the remote control instrument.

Claim 100. (new): The method according to claim 75, wherein, if the session is interrupted, the server will keep track of the status of message retrieving through transmitting of the retrieval request by the terminal by storing the status so that the session can be resumed at a later time.

Claim 101. (new): A method for transmitting service messages in a network, comprising:

- registering a terminal having a communication system address with a server;

- receiving a message content for a service message from a terminal intended for a subscriber in the network;

- receiving terminal device information and control information for server-side configuring of the communication system;

- receiving a service message at the server from a service center in accordance with a predetermined transmission protocol;

performing terminal-specific configuration at the server using the terminal device information and control information to generate a service message generating template, based on a predetermined presentation format for generating the service message;

transmitting said service message generating template to the terminal;

combining the generated message content with the service message generating template using a pre-specified server-/terminal-specific transmission protocol;

generating a service message at the server using the combined service message generating template and message content; and

transmitting the service message intended for the subscriber to the service center.

Claim 102. (new): A method for transmitting service messages from a service center located in a network comprising the steps of:

forming a first communication system comprising:

connecting a first server via a packet-switched first connection to the service center; and

connecting the first server via a packet-switched second connection to a second server;

forming a second communication system comprising the second server connected via a packet-switched third connection to a terminal;

registering a network-specific network address of the second server with the first server and forwarding the network-specific network address of the second server to the service center;

receiving a service message from the service center in accordance with a pre-specified server/service center-specific transmission protocol in the first server and forwarding the service message to the second server;

logging the terminal to the second server and transmitting terminal device information and control information alongside a second communication system address for server-side configuration;

performing terminal-specific configuration in the second server using the terminal device information and by means of the control information and terminal-specific configuration templates stored in the second server to generate a terminal-specifically parameterized configuration profile

disassembling the service message which has been received from the first server in the second server and analyzing the individual components of the disassembled service message to determine a message structure;

storing the analyzed message as formatted structure information;

identifying the addressee of the service message, and sending a notification message to the identified addressee of the received service message along with an addressing scheme for collecting the content of the service message stored on the second server;

retrieving the content of the service message stored on the second server by means of a retrieval request conveyed from the terminal to the second server in accordance with the addressing scheme in the notification message;

producing a presentation message at the second server, based on a pre-specified presentation format, using the service message and the formatted structure information and the terminal-specific configuration profile on the basis of the received retrieval request; and

transmitting the presentation message to the terminal in the form of an audio/visual message.

Claim 103. (new) The method according to claim 102, wherein the second server is integrated in the terminal for forming a structural and functional unit.

Claim 104. (new): The method according to claim 103 wherein the terminal generates a message content of a further service message intended for a subscriber in the network, further comprising:

producing a service message generating template in the second server, based on a pre-specified presentation format, for generating the further service message,



and transmitting said service message generating template to the terminal using the device information;

transferring the generated message content from the terminal using the received service message generating template and transmitting the service message generating template along with the message content, to the second server in accordance with a predetermined server-/terminal-specific transmission protocol;

generating the further service message at the second server using the service message generating template furnished with the message content and transmitting said further service message intended for the subscriber to the first server, which forwards said service message to the service center.

Claim 105. (new): The method according to claim 102, wherein the retrieved presentation message is outputted in the terminal by means of a processing unit having an installed web browser module.

Claim 106. (new): The method according to claim 105, wherein the processing unit of the terminal is assigned a message receiver module that opens a TCP/IP port in order to receive the notification message and which controls outputting of the notification message and the we browser module.

Claim 107. (new): The method according to claim 106, wherein the message receiver module of the terminal is assigned an SIP client functionality by means of which the terminal registers with and logs on to the server in accordance with a Session Initiation Protocol and receives the notification message as an SIP message.

Claim 108. (new): The method according to claim 102 wherein the service message generating template is compiled from a form or from an applet that can be executed on the terminal and an augmenting template, and wherein the template is completed during editing by the user of the terminal controlled by a WEB form.

Claim 109. (new): A method for transmitting service messages in a network wherein a terminal generates a message content of a service message intended for a subscriber in the network, comprising the steps of:

forming a first communication system comprising:

connecting a first server via a packet-switched first connection to a service center; and

connecting the first server via a packet-switched second connection to a second server;

forming a second communication system comprising the second server connected via a packet-switched third connection to a terminal;

registering a network-specific network address of the second server with the first server and forwarding the network-specific network address of the second server to the service center;

logging the second server to the first server and forwarding a first communication system address to the first server;

logging the terminal to the second server and forwarding terminal device information and a second communication system address to the second server;

using the device information, the second server producing a service message generating template, based on a predetermined presentation format for generating the service message, and forwarding the service message generating template to the terminal;

transferring the generated message content from the terminal using the received service message generating template and forwarding the service message generating template, augmented with the message content, to the second server in accordance with a predetermined transmission protocol between the server and terminal; and

generating the service message from the service message generating template furnished with the message content at the second server and transmitting the service message intended for the to the first server, which forwards the service message to the service center.

Claim 110. (new): The method according to claim 109, wherein the second server is integrated in the terminal for forming a structural and functional unit.

Claim 111. (new): A server for transmitting service messages in a network wherein a service message intended for a terminal as the addressee is available in a service center, comprising:

- a service center/server interface ("SE Interface") comprising a packet-switched first connection;

- a server/terminal interface ("SS Interface") comprising a packet-switched second connection, wherein the terminal and the server form a communication system;

- an editing unit that controls the system communication of the communication system and is connected to the SE interface and a user database, wherein the SE interface, user database, and editing unit are configured such that a network-specific network address of the terminal is registered with the server and the editing unit, and is forwarded to the service center by the editing unit and stored in the user database;

- wherein the SE interface is further configured such that, alongside a communication system address notified by the terminal registered with the server, the SE interface transmits to the editing unit device information and control information notified by the terminal for server-side configuring of the communication system and system communication;

- wherein the SS interface is configured such that it accepts the service message from the service center in accordance with a pre-specified server/service center-specific transmission protocol;

- wherein the editing unit is configured such that that server-side configuring of specific terminals comprises terminal-specific configuration templates stored in a style sheet archive and is performed using the device information and by means of the control information to generate a terminal-specifically parameterized

configuration profile;

wherein the editing unit, the SE interface, and the SS interface are configured such that the service message accepted from the service center is stored in a service message memory, and the service message accepted from the service center is disassembled into its individual components, its structure analyzed, and the results obtained are stored as formatted structure information, the addressee of the service message is identified, and a notification message is sent via the SE interface to the identified addressee to provide notification of the received service message with an addressing scheme for collecting the content of the service message stored on the server;

wherein the SE interface is configured such that a retrieval request transmitted from the terminal, with which request the terminal retrieves the content of the stored service message from the server according to the addressing scheme in the notification message, is forwarded to the editing unit; and

wherein the editing unit is configured such that a presentation message based on a predetermined presentation format is produced from the service message by reason of the received retrieval request using the formatted structure information and the terminal-specific configuration profile, and said presentation message is transmitted via the SE interface to the terminal, where the received presentation message is presented as an audio/visual message.